

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

CLOCK SYNCHRONIZATION FOR NETWORK MEASUREMENTS

5 A method, computer program product, and data processing system for estimating
and correcting the amount of clock skew in end-to-end network timing measurements is
disclosed. Measured delays are combined with their time of measurement to create
ordered pairs. These ordered pairs represent points within a Cartesian plane. The convex
hull of these points is determined, and an optimal line segment from the resulting
10 polygon is selected and extrapolated to create an affine function estimating clock skew
over time. The optimal line segment of the polygon is one that optimizes a selected
objective function. The objective function is selected so as to be an appropriate
measurement of the accuracy of the resulting linear function as an estimate of the actual
clock skew.